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Approved For Release 2004/10/28 : CIA-RDP80M01133A000800050005-1

Executive Registry
75 1510/2

IC 75-1444

16 APR 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Community Reaction to the Strategic  
Warning Staff's First Monthly Report

1. Informal reaction of NSA, DIA, INR, and OCI to the SWS's first Monthly Report was generally favorable. NSA and INR were pleasantly surprised to note that the SWS appeared to be interpreting its charter rather broadly, i.e., covering some topics that some elements of the community would consider as falling within the small-w area. In spite of bias in favor of the broad interpretation, INR wondered whether the Monthly Report had not gone too far into the small-w area.

2. DIA also thought it was a good effort but hoped that "subsequent issues will result in less items of a current intelligence/background nature."

3. The OCI consensus was that the Monthly Report "...by and large covers the areas it is supposed to cover..." and "...is an improvement over the old weekly Watch Report." They noted, however, that "...the report does step a bit beyond its charter in some instances...." (Dick Lehman said that Ed Proctor might have other views to offer later.)

4. Our own view is that the SWS has gone considerably beyond its charter as defined in DCID 1/5.\* The items on Brezhnev's health, [redacted] for example, appear to us to have no perceivable relationship to the possible resort by the Soviets to military action and thus fall outside the big-W area.

\*Paragraph 2, "Definition," of DCID 1/5: "Strategic warning is defined as the earliest possible warning that the Soviet Union, the Warsaw Pact, the PRC, or North Korea is considering military action by its armed forces beyond its borders, or is employing its military capabilities beyond its borders in ways that might threaten military confrontation with the U.S."

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5. There is clearly no way of defining exactly what international issues the SWS should and should not address. And general discussion of the problem--as we discovered in the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee--is unlikely to lead to its resolution. We believe, however, that steady pressure should be maintained on the SWS to refine the focus of its publications. This can probably best be accomplished by urging the SWS to indicate more explicitly than they have done in the Monthly Report the relevance of each of its articles to the subject of strategic warning.

6. Attached is a proposed letter from you to General Faurer on this subject.

  
Samuel V. Wilson  
Lieutenant General, USA  
D/DCI/IC

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Attachment:  
Letter to Gen. Faurer

**Distribution:**


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<b>OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP</b>					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS		
1	<i>DBC</i> Director of Central Intelligence	4/17	<i>wc/bly</i>		
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE	
<b>Remarks:</b>  <p style="text-align: center;">Your visit to the Strategic Warning Staff has been scheduled for Friday, 25 April, at 11:00-12.00. General Wilson will accompany you.</p>					
FROM		RETURN TO SENDER			
		ND PHONE NO.		DATE	
LTG Samuel V. Wilson Approved For Release 2004/10/28 : CIA-RDP80M04133A000800050005-1					
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April 8, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee on  
Watch Mechanism

SUBJECT : Comments on Strategic Warning Staff  
Monthly Report

1. There is general agreement among readers in the Directorate for Intelligence that the new Monthly Report of the Strategic Warning Staff (SWS) is a good job, and it seems to many to be an improvement over the old weekly Watch Report. There is a consensus that the report by and large covers the areas it is supposed to cover, is well written, and has an excellent summary.

2. On the other side of the ledger, it is felt that the report does step a bit beyond its charter in some instances and is probably somewhat too long for most readers.

3. There is still some sentiment within the Directorate for the SWS to produce a daily temperature report rather than a monthly. This would provide each day a temperature reading of the posture of Soviet and Chinese strike forces and tie this reading to political and economic developments in other parts of the world. It may very well be, however, that some other office in the community, and not the SWS, should produce such a report.

4. The DDI is still considering his reactions to the Monthly Report, and he may have other views to offer later.



RICHARD LEHMAN  
Director of Current Intelligence

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<b>TRANSMITTAL SLIP</b>		DATE <i>April 9, 1971</i>
TO: <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>		<i>ICS/PRB</i>
ROOM NO. <i>7 E 13</i>	BUILDING <i>Hdg 15</i>	
REMARKS:  <i>Attached are DDI Comments on Strategic Warning Staff Monthly Report</i>		
FROM: <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>		
ROOM NO. <i>7 F 30</i>	BUILDING <i>Hdg 15</i>	EXTENSION <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 50px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55		
REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED.		
(47)		

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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IC 75-1425

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Wilson

SUBJECT: Comments on SWS Monthly Report

1. The first SWS Monthly Report is an excellent beginning. There might be some criticism along the lines that their view is a little too broad; however, I would rather see them err on the "broad" side than be too narrow. Overlap between "small" and "big" w is inevitable and necessary. With the demise of the NIC/WC there is no community-wide forum for small w. The boundary line between small and big w is admittedly fuzzy but if one asks oneself (as I did ask [redacted] and [redacted] what coverage should the SWS have given had it been in operation prior to 6 October 1973? Many of the signals would have been ignored had the SWS taken a narrow view of its functions.

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2. One minor criticism: the distribution list on the Annex should recognize the differentiation among the DCI, the CIA, the NIO and the IC Staff--not lumped together under CIA.

3. My apology for this memo being a day late. I did not see a copy of the Report until this morning.



Product Review Division

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Distribution:

- Original - General Wilson
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